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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

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### Washington Correspondents of the Great From the Oilfizen. Datites.

It is the province of Washington reporters to fornish news, which they do, with more or less reliability, for the benefit of their readers; but this news is so often tampered with in the interest of some political or commercial "ring," that the truth is seldom fully told. It is supposed to be an aim of journalism to expose frauds or abuses of privileges in public positions, among public officers. Like many other suppositions regarding affairs, this one is false; for there is not a reporter or correspondent there who dates to attack any department with-out previously consulting the interests of the political or commercial ring which he repreonte.

Some there are, disgraceful and unprincipled Bobemians, representing several different anti-portal interests, who both attack and delend the same public officers or measures. For instance, there is one well known to the world of newspacerdom as an indomitable worker, and to the contingent fond of the Senate as a successful stamp extractor, who is engaged by the Boston Journal, New York Longerdial, New Orleans Times, and New York Independent, besides subserving the interests of several prominent Sena-tors of mixed political kidney. To the New Orleans Times, read by people who hate Generats Banks and Butler, he telegraphs news cal-calated to please their predictions; and to the Boston Journal, read by people who admire the two great B,'s,he telegraphs other news, arranged to add to their already great appreciation of

The most abject view of this flunkeyism is, however, found in the tyranny of Department and Bureau heads, for they occasionally arrogate to themselves the power of excluding from their offices all correspondents who do not color despatches in the manner dictated by To be excluded from any department them. results in being "oeat" in the publication of news from that source, and consequently great effort is made by the reporters to "keep on the right side" of those autocrats. It is not neces-sary that absolute exclusion should be ordered in the case of an obstreperors correspondent, for a retusal to furnish news is equivalent, and can be accomplished in a more diginited manner.

All these facts preclude the possibility of truthfulness in Washington despatches, such as are read by the millions of newspaper readers over their breaklast coffee every morning. readers of the Tribune, Times, Heraid, and World would open their eves with wonder, if for a moment they could obtain a glimpse at the diaboli-cal machinations which result in the publica-tion of these telegrams. Little do they know of the labor performed in obtaining news, and the corrupt practices and influences resorted to by the poor wretches who manufacture that most prominent feature of the metropolitan newspaper, the "Washington column."

Guérillas there are, who bushwack about the Departments, listen at keyholes, steal copies of orders, speeches, or opinions, and sneakingly obtain news at the sacrifice of decency, and then sell it to the highest bidder. A New York zuan trades news with a Cincinnati man, pro-vided the latter will agree "not to let another New Yorker have it." A Radical will trade a good Copperhead or Conservative item with a Democratic correspondent for one of "his kind." Nothing but strife, bickering, trading, screwing, cheating, and constant, wide-awake activity, results in success as a Washington cor-respondent of a daily paper. For all this, however, good salaries are paid, with immense

chances for perquisites. The chief correspondents of the New York papers probably receive \$5000 a year, and, in the main, are gentlemen of ability, with good claims to respectability. Their understrappers, however, are, with a few exceptions, men of little wind a wind income to a bility of the second little principle, who jump at a chance for money-making, and are capable of almost any imaginable measures for the purpose of procuring an Always on the alert, well versed in the habits of our public men, and risking their necks sometimes, they manage to keep posted regarding every crook and turn in political, commercial, or social matters. Of course they are indispensable to the success of the "Washington column," and, strange to say, very often make themselves indispensable to some of the prominent men of the nation. Among other notable matters connected with the subject under consideration is the influence exerted by correspondents in procuring appointments, pardons, contracts, and also their con-nection with business men in New York and other large commercial points. To procure an appointment, pardon, or contract, it is not necessary to act directly with the power which is authorized to grant it, as the most effective mode is to manipulate the private secretaries, clerks, and attaches of the department from which the favor asked for must emanate. clerks. Money is an effective organ in procuring auvthing; but there are vain, ambitious men-men who generally succeed in crawing into places of minor position and rower-who are pratified with a newspaper mention of their So it is that correspondents make friends and influence with the "powers that be," The chief buglers of Departments, and Cabinet Ministers, are sometimes amenable to such influences, as well as their subordinates, and on the

life-tbat is, the life of the telegraphic reporters of the daily press. It makes no difference from whence he comes-North, South, East, or West -file man who attempts to serve the interests of a daily newspaper as its Washington repre-sentative, upless in the capacity of chief cor-icspondent, with money enough at hand to buy gueriflas, will be obliged to do many mean things is ne succeeds.

#### Plunder in Congress. From the Tribune.

The subject of the increase of Congressmen's salaries to \$5000 came up in the House Incldentally last week. A faint attempt was made to suggest a review of that action, which was speedily bustled down. The Chairman of the Judichary Committee, to which the question was referred, complacently observed that, as Congress voted the increased compensation, it would of course stand by it, and, therefore, any action on the subject by that Committee would appear to be useless. By others, the subject was turned into a joke, the point of which was, that if it is proposed to refund the extra compensation, "don't you wish you may

We suppose we may, without giving offense. express our convictions on the abstract subject of stealing. We disclaim, of course, on such a delicate subject, all personal allusions. But this we say:-That when a body which has access to the public treasury is elected to serve a given term at a certain rate of ray, they have no right, because they have access to the treasury, to help themselves to more. It they do, they take from their employers that to which they have no claim. There is in the city of New York a municipal body who are all-ged to be notorious public robb rs. They are commonly reported to be thieves and swindlers on a large An American burns with Indignation i hear it said that the foremost city of the conti-nent is in the hands or men who would have been a disgrace to Sodom. What do these men oo? They simply help themselves from the public treasury. They are within reach of the strong box, and they stuff their pockets from it. They rob the public.

Now we should like to know where the essential difference is between such a body as we have imagined and the municipality of New York ? Where is the difference in the principle of their action ? Each votes itself money from York ? the public treasury. Each helps itself to what it wants from an open public chest, because it is open. Suppose we say each takes as much as he dates Where, then, is the difference in the criminality of the transaction?

But who shall say, if members of Congress raise their own salary from \$3000 to \$5000, they are to be classed with the infamous members of the New York "Rine ?" We say no such thing. We make no such allegation. We make every possible disclaimer. The members of Congress are gentlemen and honorable men. We know that by their titles. But will everybody be charitable? The members of Congress wanted more money. They went up to the public chest in a body, and took it. That is the simple fact. The propriety of the action being questioned, the response to the suggestion is jo ar. "Don't you wish you may get it back a substantially the reply. The Thirty-ninth Con-grees has an honorable record, with one excep-The members took money to which they were not entitled. This blot on their record has caused many a true Republican to exclaim, "Out, damned spot!" There was a perilous conflict in the elections. Men swallowed their regrets, and their indignations, and their condemnations of this fact, choosing to overlook everything but the one main issue. They considered that patriotism demanded as much as this. They left other things to be reviewed at other times. The increased compensation was one of them. There were plenty of men who telt the act to be a toul stain upon the party to which they belonged, and in whose glorious record they claimed a personal share. They felt their own individual pride humbled by it, Their banner was no longer clean. It had the smut of greed upon it. They still bore it aloft, but they averted their faces, and to the taunts of their enemies they were silent. Now, when the sub-ject is alluded to in the popular branch of Con-gress, it is met with a chuckle:—"We have taken the money. You think it should be re-funded, non't you wish you may get it?" Even the "ring" could not improve upon that style of talk

Now, what is the plain duty of Congress in versise no power over the pay of Congress Certainly, But not over its own pay. If it be said that the salary of members of Congress is ufficient, let it be turned over to a proper committee of the body for investigation. If it shall be determined that the compensation is insdequate, and should be increased, then let the increase be applied to prospective service-to future Congresses only. This is the only honorable and manly proceeding. It is the only way the thing can be done without scandalizing the whole body. Such an example of helter skelter grab for extra pay as was made by the members last session, such a shirking of personal responsibility for a dirty act, such a dodging of yeas and mays on the vote, such attempts to retreat into the dark to avoid censure for an act that would not bear the light were a borning disgrace. If the present Congress is too mean to do anything but skalk on the subject, let that which is to assemble on the th of March have the grace to enact promptly that no future Congress shall raise their own If they will not do so much as that, we DRY. may some day have a Congress elected that may conclude to take fifty thousand dollars a year appece cut of the Transury, instead of five thousand. On principle, the one act would be just as defensible as the other,

or jaws covered with a chemical composition of an ignitable nature, but the ignition of which could only take place by the contact of another composition having a chemical affinity. The passenger's ticket was the ped with the chemical passenger's ticket was the ped with the chemical affinity, and on the ticket being inserted in the silt of the tube a match was lighted which dis-charged a rocket on the roof of the carriage, and ignited a colored fire, which burned for several minutes. The passenger's ticket, on being inserted in the slit, was at once desingured, and thus proved unmitateable who mare the and thus proved unmistakably who gave the signal. The rocket was heard from one end to the other of the train, and the light burned brilliantly. It appeared that there was no gea brilliantly. It appeared that there was no gear to get out of order, and it was stated that the apparatus could be cheaply applied, that trains could be 'made up' without interfering with it, and that it was as efficient in signalling when one part of a train was accidentally separated from the other as when the train was comfrom the other as when the train was com-

Now, this is really fine. You go to the rall-Now, this is really fine. You go to the rall-way station, and buy what appears to be an or-dinary railroad ticket, but which is really a chemical compound, so made up that the moment it comes into contact with anything having a chemical affinity, goes off in a colored flame with an explosion considerably louder than a thunderbolt, indeed, sufficiently loud to be heard from one end to the other of a forty-mile-mer-hour train of sixty carriages. This we mile-per-hour train of sixty carriages. This, we ake it, is more than a mere scientific invention. It involves something which compasses the chics of social life. One can imagine a female on whom an outrage might be attempted, pro-vided not with one, but with *fifty*, of those chemica-offinity cards—what a terrific row she could make in the world! One's breath is taken away at the mere mention of the thing. away at the mere mention of the thing. Drop half a score of those cards into the chemical affinity "slit," and you might hear the report from Peoris to Philadelphia, or, peradventure, further,

#### Removal of the Deadlock.

From the Herald. When two muleteers meet on one of those dan-

perous shelves of the cloud-piercing Andes where only one can pass at a time, it sometimes happens, when neither party will back out, that the weaker mule and driver are hurled to destruction among the rocks thousands of fect below. In such a pass President Johnson and Congress now stand confronting each other: and here, too, if neither party will give way, the weaker will be displaced to clear the track. After putting down by force of arms the most gigantic, formidable, and tenacious rebellion in the history of any people, the victorious loyal Stales have made known their ultimatum for the restoration of the subjugated Rebel States. This ultimatum is embodied in the pending Con-stitutional amendment. It is fair and liberal in its terms, it is demanded by the new situation of things, it is calculated to re-establish harmony between the North and South, and contidence and cuterprise for the present everywhere; and it gives us in behalf of the peace of the Union and the national debt. Treasury and currency, ample securities for the future. This amend-ment, then, is an ultimatum from which the yal States and their representatives in Congress cannot recede. It must go through, and the obstructions which block the way must be removed, because the North has so decreed, and has the strength against all opposition from every quarter and in any shape

what, then, are these obstructions which for the time arrest the adoption of the amendment? Strangely enough, the chief impediment is President Johnson, whose special daty is to "see that the laws are faithrally executed." Conceding in the outset the sovereign power of Congress over the question of Southern reconstruction, he committed a fatal mistake in departing from this linitial landmark. This was over twelve months ago, and since that day-first in assuming the exclusive powers of Congress, then in this denunciation of and in his resistance to the general policy of Con-cress, good measures, bad or indifferent, and then after appealing to the people, and getting their verdict upon his course—he has, in his utter disregard of the popular voice, cone downward from had to worse, until he is menaced with the worst of con-equences, his impeachment and removal.

This penalty he may escape, if he is not too late, by backing out from his false position, Otherwise he must resign, or, as an intolerable obstruction, he will surely be removed. There are other obstructions, such as the old, intractable, and still defiant ruling pro-slavery oligarchy of the South and their old hide bound party confederates of the North, and Northern negro-worshipping fanatics; such obstructions as Massachusetts and South Carolina, walking rm in arm against the amendment, as in the Philadelphia Johnson Convention; such obstales as the incurable fire eaters of the South and Northern visionary philosophers and reformers, who will have nothing but the programme of the first French republic, or the millennium on the plan of a Fourierite phalanx. But all these obstructions, and some others, are dependent upon President Johnson, and with his recantation, resignation, or removal, they will all dis-appear or cease to block the way. In a word, Johnson is the deadlock against Southern termistruction and restoration, and if he will be turn the key and open the door, it will be nemed by taking off the lock with the screwnver of impeachment. The present Congress is evidently finessing with the Territorial bill of Mr. Stevens. It masks the battery which lies behind all these passing debates. The new Congress, elected on the platform of the pending Constitutional adment, will assemble March 4, duly qualihed and prepared for decisive work. If not so proclaimed by law meantime, probably one of the first acts of the new Congress will be to proclaim the amendment in question a part of the Constitution in being duly ranned by the Legisatures of three fourths of the States represented in Congress, and constituting, de tacto and de jure, the Government of the United States. This done, the supreme naw of the land must be enforced by the President over all the Rebel States, or upon this issue alone there will be imple ground for his impeacament and removal. n anticipation of his removal, at all events, it out from Washington that a law will probably be passed by Congress providing tempotarity for the promotion of General Grant to the White House as acting President-a man whose very name carries with it the prestige of confidence and success. With General Grant in the Executive chair, we know that the present unreasonable, impla-cable, and depant Rebel States would speeddy realize their true situation: that they would be without difficulty reorganized on the basis of the amendment; and that with, it not before, the return of December, they would all be rein stated in Covgress and harmoniously co-operating with the North to carry on the great work of the new Union. We are sure that the South would thus fall in with the new ideas and new constitution of this new epoch, casting out all the remaining dregs and dry bones of that old, torn-down fabric whose corner-stone, like that of the defunct Jeff Davis confederacy, was Atrican slavery. The Rebellion was a movement to perpetuate. The Rebellion was a movement to perpetuate, outside of the Union, that system of slavery established in the eid Constitution, but which the Union had outgrown. Hence our old pro-slavery Constitution in the war for the Union went down with the Rebellion, and with it must go down all the adjuncts of slavery, such as Cathour's State rights and the civil and poli-tical dispublities attached to the Afrons and the as cannot be stilled and the civit and better tical deschiftes attached to the African and the slightest infusion of African blood. The pend-ing amendment covers all this ground, and will give us that new constitution and that new dispensation for which the price has been paid of three hundred thousand Union soldiers lying in their graves, and three thousand millions of money in the shape of national debt. The results gained by these great sacrifices will be fixed in the Constitution, where they will stand. President Johnson must no longer resist this great movement. He must give way or resign, or he will be removed. The advancement of General Grant to his office will make the impeachment perfectly satisfactory to the loyal States, and decisive to the Rebel States.

If in the interval to 1868 he shall not have furshed all his appointed work, ample time will be accorded him in his regular election for the succession. We like the idea of calling in the man who put down the Rebel States to set them up again under the sovereign authority of Copgress.

"Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness." From the World.

When a writer takes upon himself the character of a historian, he thereby gives an implied pledge of honesty, impartiality, diligence, and candor in respect to the events he narrates. It he consciously fails in any of these particulars, he forfeits his personal honor. If an uncon-scious bias betrays him into talse or garbled statements, he is bound to attend to evidence offered in recultication, and, so far as it is not captions, either to invalidate its force or acknow-

aptions, either to invalidate its force of acknow-ledge his errors. The editor of the Tribune, who has recently published a history of the war, made on Monday an elaborate assault on the patriotism of the Democratic party, in support of the charge made in the House of Representatives by Mr. Ashley, for an unparliamentary contradiction of which a Democratic member was arraigned at the bar of the House and censured. The editor of the Iribune offers his accusations as a result of his recent historical researches. After a long array of garbled facts, he uses this cmphatic and apparently deliberate language :-"We might multiply such facts to jutinity; but need we? Suffice it that, as the result of a most anxious, intent contemplation of the history of anxious, intent contemplation of the history of our great struggle, we do most undoublingly believe that the Democrats, as a party, were not at heart for the Union in its terrible struggle with Secession—that they did not rejoice at its triumphs nor deplore its deteats."

We shall not depide its deteats." We shall not adopt the faconic style of contra-diction for which Mr. Hunter was censured, for that would render it impossible for the *Tribune* to make a retraction or a rejoinder. We desire to receive one or the other. We could not be provoked to bandy that offensive monosyllable at ali. If there should be need of severity, we can be severe without coarse epithets. The Tribune makes twelve counts in its indictment. Our space may not suffice to rebut the twelve; but to avoid suspicion of selecting, we will take them in their order :-

I, Secession was first inaugurated in South Carolina directly after the popular choice of Presidential electors early in November, 1860, whereby the accession of Mr. Lincoln to the Presidency was assared. The men who inaugu-rated it were all Democrats-that is, they had upported for President Van Buren in 1840, Polk in 1844, Cass in 1848. Pierce in 1852, Buchanan in 1856, and J. C. Breckinridge in 1860. There may have been one or two exceptions, but we know of none. There was cer-tainly no Republican among them, whether in that or any other State. And, whatever their impulse to secession, toeir prefeat for it was the riumph of the Republicans in the choice of Mr. Lincoln atoresaid,

-Facts may be so stated as to do the office of falsehood, omission or talse connection being equally as indefensible as invention. The quesion raised by Mr. Ashley, and discussed by the Trabane, relates to the course, during the inception and progress of the Rebetlion, of the Demoratic party of the North. The whole Southern or ople, without disunction of party, fought for their independence. It is impertment to refer to the course of any part of them as an inculpation of the Northein Democrats, whose conduct is alone in question. An unscrupubut hey discredit a professed historian. The Democratic party of the North and that of the South separated previous to the Presi-dential election of 1860, the Northern Democrats supporting Mr. Douglas, the Southern Mr. Brickinrage, It was not indeed a clear division; Douglas received a few Southern and Mr. Breckmridge a few Northern votes; but the Douglas party, which comprised the great body of the Northern Democrats, cannot be held re-sponsible for those with whom they openly pustrelled. A historian, whose business is to ell the whole truth-that is, all which is essental to a correct indgment of men and eventsthe truth without over-stating or under-stating it, without heightening it by glosses or obscuring it by shading, should not nave ignored that great set ism in the Democratic party, and have attempted to hold the Northern Democrats responsible for a movement against which they made an organized protest.

their loyalty? Mr. Buchanan's position was succinctly stated in his message to Congress of January 8, 1861, in the following language:-"I certainly had no right to make aggressive whr upon any State, and I am pertectly satisfied that the Constitution has wisely withheld that power even from Congress. But the right and the duty to use military to see the state of the state. the duty to use military force defensively against those who resist the Federal officers in the execution of their legal functions, and against those who assail the property of the Federal Covernment, is clear and undeniable." This was also the doctrine of the annual message, and is precisely the doctrine on which Mr. Lincoln based all his earlier action. In the light of these facts, we ask candid men to judge of the custworthiness of the editor of the Iribune as a IV, During that memorable winter Demo-

cratic conventions were held in several States-that in this State (held in Tweddle Hall, Albany, January 21, 1861) being one of the ablest and January 31, 1861) being one of the ablest and strongest that was ever convened. But from none of these conventions, nor from the Demo-crats in Congress, nor from the thousand to fitteen hunared Democratic journals published in the country, was a voice raised in depreca-tion of or dissent from these disorganizing doc-trines. On the contrary, they were generally reveloped, and almost universally acquiesced in. —To this it is a sufficient reply to have shown, as we have under the last head, that "these disorganizing doctrines" are wiltup perversions of the historian. Under a sub-equent head we shall show that Mr. Buchanan's acctrines, as he netwally stated them, "were acquiesced in" by

actually stated them, "were acquiesced in" by

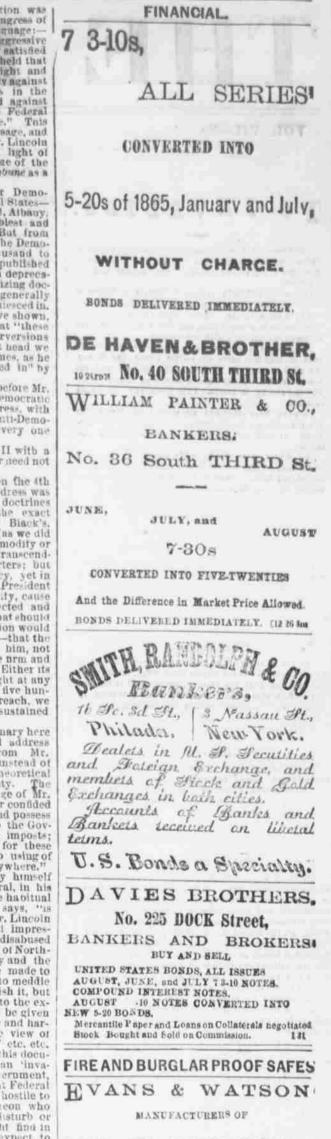
President Lincoln himself. V. Seven States having second before Mr. Buchanan's term expired, their Democratic members vacated their seats in Congress, with very rare exceptions. Of their few anti-Democrailc members, nearly or quite every one remained to the close,

-Another appearance of Nos. I and II with a ew variation of costume. The answer need not

VI. Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1861; and his inaugural address was mainly devoted to the inculcation of doctrines regarding secession and coercion the exac opposites of Messrs, Buchanau and Black's Mr. Lincoln was well known to nold (as we did and do) the right of the people to modify or change their form of government as transcendng all written Constitutions or charters; but he, with great clearness and cogency, yet in perfect kindness, demonstrated that a President must, to the utmost limit of his ability, cause the laws of the Union to be respected and obeyed in every State and Territory-that should a collision of forces result, his position would be strictly defensive and conservative-that the on-sequent war would be made upon him, not y him. Never was a manifesto more nrm and acid; never was one less irritating. Either its doctrines were sound, or any State might at any time dissolve the Union. Yet, of the five hunored Democratic journals within our reach, we believe no single one approved and sustained the positions of Mr. Lincoln.

 —It the reader will compare the summary here iven of the doctrines of the inaugural address with the foregoing quotation from Mr. Buchanan's message, he will see that, instead of being "exact opposites," there is no theoretical contradiction, and a practical identity. The ancoin's first inaugural:-"The power confiden to ne will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property and places belonging to the Gov-eroment, and to collect the duties and imposts; ut beyoud what may be necessary for these objects, there will be no invasion, no using of force, against or among the people anywhere," Now, let us hear what Mr. Greeley humself says of this "firm and lucid inaugural, in his

comments on it in his history :-- "The habitual tone of this remarkable paper," he says, "is deprecatory, not to say apologetic. Mr. Lincoin vidently composed it under the fixed impression that the South needed but to be disabused of her impressions and apprehensions of Northern i ostility, to restore her to loyalry and the whole land to peace. If she can be made to ei that the new rule does not desire to meddle with slavery in the States which cherish it, but will hunt and return fugitive slaves to the exent of its abuity, then secession will be given up, and the country restored to peace and har-That certainly is an amiable view of iony. the situation; but it was not justified,' etc. etc. And again :- "The weakest portion of this document is us inconsiderate talk about an 'inva-sion' of the States by the Federal Government, and its quasi pledge not to appoint Federal ers for communities unan the anthority of the Union. A surgeon who should volunteer a piedge not to disturb or medale with any proud flesh he might find in ais patient's wounds, would hardly expect to augment thereby that patient's considence in his skill," etc. etc. etc. Does Mr. Greeley, who is clearly the writer of the article in the Tribut e mean to impugn the accuracy of his own "An orlean Confact?" He says that of five hunared Democratic journals no single one, he behaves, sustained the positions of the mangural. Admitting this statement to be hopest, it discredits his diagence, and though the point is trivial, shows his readiness to hazard assertions of which he has no proof. The Boston Post, the leading Democratic paper of New England, said of the inaugural: — "The Conservatives will be glad to see, at this time, the opening avowals of the address. The pledge not to interfere with slavery in the States; the denunciation of lawss invasions of those States: the avowal to rotect slavery in case of a servile insurrection; e promise to carry into effect the fugitive slave igation, seem to come ap to the requirements the Constitution. Nor is this all. Towards conclusion the President returns to the subct, and further manifests his desire to concili ate, by frankly endorsing the Corwin amend-ment to the Constitution, which has just re-ceived a two-thirds vote of both branches of



# Johnnie, tiekle me; tickle me, do; You tickle me, and I'il tickle you

rinciple, astoniabing things are effected. It is not To be imagined that the editors of the news-papers used in the tickling process are aware of these facts; for all editors are supposed to be honest, and would either put a stop to it or pro-vide for a little lickling for their own personal gratification. Sometimes these Great Moguls interpolate a litrle tickle in the Washington despatches after they have been received from the telegraph office, and they very often direct their agents to tickle thus and so, greatly to the disarrangement of the plan of said agents. One of the correspondents is clers of the

One of the correspondents is clerk of the Printing Committee, with a salary of nearly \$2500 a year; editor of the "Digest of the Mes-sage and Documents," for which he receives \$1000; compiler of the "Index to the Globe," also a \$1000 job; and arranges the "Congres-sional Directory," makes other compilations, and does other odd jobs; so that, with his income trom his press connections, he probably

clears \$10,000 a year. Very naturally Washington correspondents, who make it their business to get news, are profitable friends of business men; and I venture to say that not a few wool, whisky, cotton, or gold dealers and brokers have received telegrams from them since Congress met, in advance of the publication of news, regarding proposed changes of tariff, revenue tax, or the disposi-tion of public funds. Around the Revenue Commission, the Finance Committee, the Secre-tary of the Tressury, and, in fact, everybody and everything connected, no matter how indi-rectly, with the revenue of the nation, a veil of secrecy is thrown, which hides from the knowl-ledge of all but a few lucky friends or Paul Prys the intention of the Government. This secrecy may be beneacial to a few; but the masses lose by it, as it is not thorough, and the reporters who succeed in obtaining information find it more profitable to sell their news to certain rings than to make it public to the world.

About two years ago, a certain Chicago firm was advised by some one here to invest in whisky, as some one knew that the Ways and Means Committee of the House would recommend, and probably succeed in, increasing the internal revenue tax on that article. The firm invested, and in a few days realized handsomely, Thereupon some one received a comfortable little bonus of \$1000.

### From the Times, Hit it at Last,

The question of railway signals in England. our readers may remember, has stiracted much attention of late years. The engineering mind cl the country has been exercised in a most earnest way to devise means for enabling passengers to communicate with the guards in case of accident, or attempted violence in any separate carriage. We had infimated in these columns that the vulgar strap, which we have always made use of here in the United States, has not been ineffectual in the prevention of murders, outrages, rapes, and so forth on board railway trains, ina-much as by simply pulling it an ordinary passenger train might be brought to a stand in a very short space of time. Recardless of any suggestions of ours, the engineering experiments to which we refer have gone on in moon and other parts of the United Kingdom. And it would appear from a report in the Lon-oon Times that scientific labor and research have at last met their just reward.

We do not, perhaps, thoroughly understand all the technical points in the London Times, report; but we have no doubt that the whole thing hinges upon the establishment of a cer, tain chemical affinity, with which every pass ger on getting aboard goes fully charged at the Company's expense. Our London contempo-

rary, in the issue of the 15th inst., says:-"Yesterday experiments were made in trains running between the Victoria Station and the Crystal Palace, for the purpose of testing an in-vention for establishing communication between presengers and guard while the train is in motion. Several railway directors, officials, and other gentlemen were present. The in-vention was patented by Messrs. Le Keux and Wishart, the object being to place the commu-mention in the oppearing to place the communication in the power of every passenger as well as between the front guard and rear guard. The signal shows at once to the guard and The signal shows at once to the guard and driver the compartment from which the signal was given, and afterwards the passenger who gave the signal. The apparatus was applied to the last carriage of a long train, and those who desired to witness the effect of the experiments travelled in the guard's break next the engine. The apparatus consisted of a piece of tubing in-serted in the roof of each carriage, having at the part which was within reach of the passengers a slit just wide enough to take the edge of a railway ticket. In this slit was a pair of clamps Enough has been said, however, to give your a slit just wide enough to take the edge of a railway ticket. In this slit was a pair of clamps

H. Other States-at least ten of them-fol-owed South Carolina in her so-cailed secession. Two or three more pretended or were claimed to have done so. In every instance, this so-called secession was substantially the act of the Democratic party of those States respectively. That is to say: the great body of those who had previously "run" the Democratic machine were carly and ardent secessionists, while the mass the opposite party were either adverse or akewarm. Thus, every Democratic Governor of a State, those of Delaware and Kentucky excepted, was at the bead of the hunt for dis upion; and, of the exceptions, each openty contemned all toreible resistance to the movement.

-This is an litera ion of the same charge in different dress; it requires no separate reply. It is wholly irrelevant to the course of the Northern Democratic party, which is the only thing in dispute.

111. The Federal Government was then wholly in the hands of the Democratic party, save that the flouse of Representatives was need-William Pennington (moderate Republican) having at ength been chosen its Speaker by one majority, But in no single department did that Government oppose any callest resistance to secession. President Buchanan, in his message of Decem-ber 3, 1860, squarely proclaimed that Congress had no right to use force to prevent the with-drawal of a State from the Union, nor to compel her to yield obetience to its laws. To do this he argued would be to make war on a Sale. which Congress had no constitutional power to lo. (See "American Conflict," vol. 1, p. 370.) This proclamation of national anarchy wa backed by a formal opinion from his Democratic Attorney-General, Jeremiah S. Black, who was afterwards his Secretary of State, who affirmed hat the use of armed men to enforce the laws. n the existing sate of things, would be 'wholly illegal," He further urged that an attempt to make a second State infal her Fede-ral obligations "would be, ipso facto, an expul-sion of such State from the Union." (The very ophistry which we hear every day from the Democrats of 1867.)

-Provoking as this is, we will use only argu-ment. And hist as to Congress. The Demo-cratic party was a major ty in that body only by the presence of the Southern members, and e have sufficiently exposed the injustice holding the Northern Democrats responsible for the domgs of a party from which they had formally separated by an acrimonious disrup-tion. By the middle of the session most of here secession members had retired, leaving he Republicans a decisive majority in both How es, and responsible for the legislation, And what did they do? Nothing. President Buchanan had explained to them that additional legislation was necessary to enable the Executive to enforce the laws, but instead of providing for the emergency, tasy rejected proposal to confer on the President authority to all out the militia, and left Mr. Lincoln, them own President, so unprovided that when Sumter tell he had to violate the law to save the country.

Next as to the President. The Tribune dis torts the doctrine of Mr. Bachanan by unfair statement and wilful suppression. It is true, he enred the right to coerce States or make war n States; but herein he did not differ essentially from Mr. Lincoln in his on the way mations as we shill have occasion to show more appropriately under another head. Even the war Congress which assembled the following July, practically accepted the same doctrine. The most important act of the session was enritled "An act to authorize the employment of volunteers to aid in enforcing the laws and pro-tecting public property." There was not a word about coercing a State in all the legislation of the period. All language implying that theory was studiously avoided both by the Republican President and the Republican Congress. Wint would the *Tribune* think of an argu-ment, founded on that circumstance, against

ongress," More quotations to this effect can e furnished, if they are called for, We have met, and, as we suppose our readers will think, exploded, the first six counts of the *tribune's* indictment. We are ready to pay the ame compliment to the other six, when the tribune shall have made the explanations which are due from it to the American public, and to the assumed character of its editor as a historian

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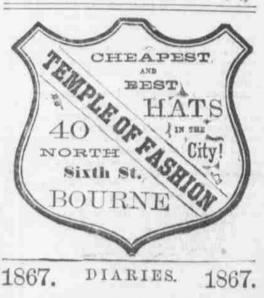
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